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STEP Shokol, A. A., Andrusenko, L. P. AUTHORS:

TITLE:

Investigation of the conditions of germanium precipitation with magnesium and iron

15) TRANS. FROM PERIODI CAL:

Ukrainskiy khimicheskiy zhurnal, v. 28; mo. 9, 1962, 1009 - 101

Optimal conditions (concentration of Ge, pH, and the consumption TEXT: factor of precipitants) for the precipitation of germanium by magnesium and/or iron were studied at the Institut obshchey i neorganicheskoy khimii AN USSR (Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry AS UkrSSR). The precipitated Ge was filtered off and in the filtrate the non-precipitated Ge was colorimetrically determined with phenylfluoron. The following results were obtained: The maximum precipitation (98.4%) of Ge by a magnesia mixture at a concentration of 138.5 mg Ge/1 occurs at pH = 12.0. In the absence of ammonium salts the maximum is lower (89.2 - 91.8%) and lies at pH 9.6 - 11.6. Varying the ratio Mg : Ge from 0.1 to 50, an almost complete (99.8%) precipitation of Ge was achieved at a pH of about 10 and a 15fold excess of Mg. A surplus of sodium hydroxyde does

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not affect these precipitations, because apparently ragnesium orthogermanate is formed and no adsorption of Ge on magnesium hydroxyde occurs. Experiments with germanium precipitation by iron hydroxyde (as collector) at a pH of about 8, by varying the Fe/Ge ratio (0.1 - 50) showed a complete precipitation of Ge (1.25 mg Ge/100 ml) in the presence of a 25fold excess of iron. In this case a surplus of sodium hydroxyde showed a negative effect upon the Ge precipitation, apparently due to adsorption processes. Germanium precipitation by magnesium in the presence of iron hydroxyde (1.25 mg Ge + 6.25 mg Mg in 100 ml solution) at a pH of about 8 showed a 99.9% precipitation of Ge, if at a 5fold Mg excess a 10 - 15fold excess of iron was present or a 100% precipitation of Ge if at a 15fold iron excess a 2fold excess of Mg was present. The pH should not drop below 8. Experiments at a constant ratio Mg : Ge = 5 : 1 showed that with an increasing amount of Ge the quantity of iron necessary for a complete precipitation of Ge decreases, but only at a concentration of more than 10 mg Ge/l a complete precipitation of Ge can be attained, because in diluted solutions Ge remains partly dissolved as magnesium orthogermanate. A complete precipitation, even at low Ge concentrations (0.1 mg/l) is effected at a ratio Ge: Fe = 1: 25 (or more), or in the presence of a 2fold surplus of Mg at only a 10 - 15fold excess of iron at

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pH > 8. There are 3 figures and 6 tables.

ASSOCIATION: Institut obshchey i neorganicheskoy khimii AN USSR (Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry, AS UkrSSR)

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